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MONTHLY LETTER OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

February, 1920

Number 70

C. GORDON HEWITT

On March I came the sad news of the death of Dr. C. Gordon Hewitt, Dominion Entomologist of Canada. Doctor Hewitt died of pneumonia at Ottawa after a very short illness. All American entomologists will be saddened by the loss of this brilliant young investigator and admirable executive. He had founded an excellent service in Canada and had broad plans for the future. His cooperation with the entomologists of the States was very close and cordial. He was an enthusiastic member of the Association of Economic Entemologists, and his admirable address as retiring president of this organization will be remembered. - L.O.H.

STORED PRODUCT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

E. A. Back, Entomologist in Charge

Commercial firms are careful not to give out much information regarding losses to stored foods due to insect attack; therefore, the following data have a peculiar interest. They are available as a result of cooperation between this Bureau and the United States Navy. About 750 tons each of rice and navy beans are under consideration. The saving effected in this single instance is 26.9 times the amount of the appropriation for Stored Product Insects recommended to Congress by the Committee on Agriculture (H.R. 12,272; February 16, 1920) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1921.

The Navy purchased 1,530,492 pounds of rice at \$0.07265 per pound, or \$111,190.2438. When found slightly infested with the rice weevil and recommended for treatment, steps had already been taken to salvage the entire lot for \$0.0375 per pound. Had the rice been sold at this figure, the loss would have been \$53,796.79. Instead, the supply was reconditioned at a cost of \$0.00832 per pound, or for \$12,733.69, and sold after reconditioning at \$0.0675 per pound, or for \$103,308.21. The saving thus effected by the treatment of the rice was \$33,181.07.

Navy beans to the amount of 1,322,614 pounds were purchased by the Navy at \$0.0925 per pound, or for \$122,341.795. When recommended for treatment they were about to be sold by the Salvage Department for \$0.0375 per pound, or for \$66,130.70. Instead they were reconditioned at a cost of \$0.007 per pound, or for \$9,258.30. After being reconditioned they were sold at \$0.09 per pound, or for \$119,035.26. Thus the saving effected by the treatment was \$43,646.26.

LIBRARY

Mabel Colcord, Librarian

New Books

- Bague, Jaime. Exterpacion de la garrapata (tick). 12 p., col. pl. San Juan, August, 1919. (Porto Rico Dept. Agr. y Trab. Insular Station Circular 18.)
- Bailey, L.H. The nursery manual. 456 p., illus. New York, The Macmillan Company, 1920. Important diseases and insects affecting nursery stock, p. 190-215.
- Castellani, A., and Chalmers, A.J. Manual of tropical medicine. Ed. 3. 2436 p., illus. London, Bailliere, Tindall, & Cox, 1919.
- Egypt Anti-malarial commission. Preliminary report... 55 p., plates. Cairo, 1919.
- Fabre, J.H.C. The glow-worm and other beetles. 488 p. New York, 1919,
- Guenaux, Georges. Zoologie agricole, animaux nuisibles et animaux utiles a l'agriculture. Manmiferes, réptiles, batraciens... 312 p., illus. Paris, J. B. Balliere et fils, 1919.
- Illingworth, J.F. Monthly notes on grubs and other cane pests. 2d ser. 51 p. Brisbane, 1919. (Queensland Bur. Sugar Expt. Sta. Div. Ent. Bul. 8)
- Jordan, E.O. A text-book of general bacteriology. Ed. 6, rev. 691 p. Phila. & London, W.B. Saunders Company, 1919.
- Maulik, S. Coleoptera-Chrysomelidae (Hispinae and Cassidinae). 439 p., illus. London, July, 1919. (Fauna of British India.)
- Shaw, George. General zoology, or systematic natural history. v. 8 in 2 pts. plates. London, 1806. Contents: Insects.
- Van Dine, D.L. Mosquito work of the Bureau of Entomology. Amer. Journ. Public Health, v. 10, no. 2, p. 116-119, February, 1920.
- Veitch, Robert. The cane beetle borer (Rhabdochemis obscura) in Fiji. 22 p., plate. Sydney, October, 1919. (Colonial Sugar Refining Co., 1td ltd. Agr. Rept. 4.)
- Wesenberg, Lund, C.J. Inseklivet i ferske vande... (Aquatic insects) 524 p., illus. (Kristiania og Kobenhavn) Gyldendal, Nordisk forlag, 19b5.

SOUTHERN FIELD CORP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomological Assistant Acting in Charge

Dr. W. D. Hunter was in Washington from February 19 to 21.

R.H. Hutchison has resigned, effective March 15, to accept a position with the H. K. Mulford Company, Philadelphia, Pa.

USE OF AIRPLANE IN JAPANESE BEETLE ERADICATION WORK

It will be of interest to entomologists to learn that the airplane has again been used in entomological work. It was used at Riverton, N.J., through the cooperation of the War Department, to photograph the area infested by the Japanese beetle. The plan was to rake a mosaic of the area so that the clean-up work might be more intelligently conducted and the barrier band planned, and further, so that the work to be done and the necessity of doing it a certain way might be shown to the farmers.

THE ENTOMOLOGISTS! HANDBOOK

There is in preparation a handbook to include information useful to working entomologists, especially those who have recently entered upon entomological work. The following is a brief summary of the data to be included:

Introduction: Treatise for the entomologist, respecially for the entomologist beginning the work.

Needs of the entomologist recently out of school.

Relation of entomology to other branches of agricultural science and the knowledge of each required.

Methods of insect investigation:

Life-history studies, in laboratory and field.

Outline of investigations.

Artificial-control studies, in laboratory and field Outline of investigations, methods of securing data, etc.

Natural control studies.

Laboratory studies.

Methods of practical utilization.

Classification of parasites.

Demonstration work in the field.

Outline of plans and methods.

Cages and equipment:

Cages, types for various insects.

Handling cages.

Types of laboratories and insectaries.

Other equipment.

Care of laboratory equipment.

Handling records.

Handling of material:

Methods of preserving larvae and pupae.

Mothods of preserving adults.

Methods of slide mounting.

Illustrations:

Photography

Value and needs of insect photography

Equipment and general methods.

Useful tables.

Drawings.

General principles, methods, rules, charts, etc.

Publications:

Detailed investigations useful for the entomologist.
Missellareous notes. Desirability of publishing certain

sherv records
Publications for county agent and farmer.

Methods of correcting any handling proof, etc.

Importance of a knowledge of related subjects

Legal aspects.

Taxonomic problems:

Importance to the economic entomologist.

Deposition of types, etc.

Rules of nomenciature.

Methods of writing descriptions, with examples.

Methods of determining sexes in different families.

Tables of colors, shapes, measurements, etc., and useful data for the laboratory and field worker.

References.

The completeness of this handbook depends on the cooperation received from EVERY envoroligist. The book will be a compilation and it is desired to have references, or better, to have separates of all published notes dealing directly or indirectly with the subject, and to have details, and if possible illustrations, in the case of cages and equipment, of unpublished unformation, full credit for which will of course be given. Contributions to the handbook may be sent in care of the Chief of the Bureau